The Citizen

BLACKBURN, DARWEN AND HYNDBURN

Wednesday, October 26, 2011 | The **local** newspaper for our community | blackburncitizen.co.uk

DON'T MISS **Jason Wilcox**

Read the title-winning winger's views on events at Ewood Park

EVERY TUESDAY IN YOUR TELEGRAPH

Crackdown to stub out illegal smokes

By NEIL DOCKING

Sales to kids targeted in campaign

A major crackdown on rogue traders who sell cigarettes to children and young people in East Lancashire has been launched.

The Keep It Out campaign highlights the dangers of illegal tobacco and encourages communities to take action against those who sell it to young people.

Tobacco Free Futures has chosen to run the campaign in East Lancashire after the area was revealed as an illegal tobacco 'hotspot'.

Dr Sohail Bhatti, interim director of public health at NHS East Lancashire, backed the scheme, which started on Monday.

He said: "On average, over 500 people in East Lancashire die each year because of smoking-related diseases.

"It's worrying that East Lancashire is a hotspot for illegal tobacco.

"We need to work together in our communities to stop illegal cigarettes being sold to children so that they don't become one of these terrible statistics in the future."

New research has revealed that half of the tobacco bought by 14 to 15-year-olds is illegal, and one-in-four young smokers regularly gets offered illegal tobacco. Dealers target children and young people by selling single cigarettes, which makes it more affordable and gets them hooked so they come back for more.

Illegal tobacco is also linked to low-level and large-scale organised crime, so it helps fund drugs and weapon smuggling, child exploitation and money laundering.

Andrea Crossfield, of Tobacco Free Futures, said: "It doesn't matter if it's being sold in fag houses, shops, parks, or by neighbours, or family friends. Illegal tobacco makes it easier for children to get hooked."

Stage: Tiny ballerinas tu-tu cute!

BALLET BABES: Young dancers try out costumes for size during a demonstration workshop with the Vienna Festival Ballet company, at King George's Hall, Blackburn. Back row, from left, Tia Carrie-Algar, eight, Iris Urmson-Mitchell, four, Natasha Baxter, 10, and, front from left, Louise Cullen, eight, Emily Rolfe, seven, and Sophie Thomson.

Paramedic bows out after 40 years

Paramedic Geoff Evans, from Accrington, who is retiring after almost 40 years, says he treasures the many 'thank-you' letters he has received during his long career.

STORY 3

LAUGHTER LEGENDS

Comedy double act Tommy Cannon and Bobby Ball, who are heading to East Lancashire this week, say it's like playing on home ground.

LEISURE 11

'Rat-run' concerns

Residents in Belthorn are calling for action to prevent drivers using their village as a 'rat-run' to avoid traffic lights.

STORY 4

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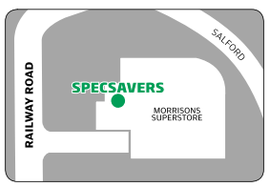

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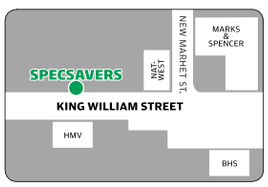

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Citizen In brief

Patients can have say on health care

Residents are being asked to have their say on health and social care in Blackburn with Darwen at a Patients' Voice Session, with **Sir Bill Taylor**, chairman of NHS Blackburn with Darwen.

The session will be held on Wednesday, November 2, from 4pm to 6pm, at Bentham Road Health Centre.

Paintings on show

An exhibition of watercolours, pastels and acrylic paintings, created by Hippings Vale artists, runs at Sunnyhurst Visitor Centre, in Darwen, until November 20.

Blood donor sessions

The ballroom at Poplar Working Men's Club, Wellington Street, Accrington, will host blood donor sessions next month.

The sessions, on Thursday, November 10, are from 1.15pm to 3.30pm, and from 5.15pm to 7.30pm.

Life-saver paramedic retires after 40 years

By **EMMA CRUCES**

A top paramedic who has a stack of 'thank-you' letters dating back almost 40 years is retiring.

Working for the ambulance service since 1973, Accrington man Geoff Evans worked his way up to ambulance liaison manager, working closely with Lancashire hospitals to ensure emergency vehicles were freed up as soon as possible.

In his time on the road however, the 60-year-old grandfather-of-four was renowned as the 'ambulance man' guaranteed to be sent to the most difficult, and unusual, jobs.

Geoff has delivered 17 babies in rapid response situations during his career, which began when he joined the service with a St John's Ambulance first aid certificate, working his way up to a paramedic qualification by 1993.

In the eighties, he was renowned for being sent to the most extreme emergencies which, in those days, were printed out on pink sheets. As a result he was given a 'pink sheet' award from colleagues because his exploits became so well known.

Geoff, who was based at Altham for 33 years, said: "The trainees always dreaded working with me because of the bad jobs I got.

"When someone was trapped in their car, or in machinery at work, they would need complicated treatment while being freed by the fire service. It wasn't as easy then as it is now to regulate pain relief and it was sometimes quite tense.

"I have lots of 'thank-you' letters from people I have helped and parents whose babies I have delivered. I have kept them over the years because it always meant so much to me.

"I have seen a lot of changes. Before seatbelts, drivers just used to go straight through the windscreen and children would become catapults around the vehicle. Health and safety rules now mean we see less dramatic workplace accidents. However, speed is just as much a problem today."

Friends, family and colleagues from North West Ambulance Service joined together to celebrate Geoff's retirement at the Canine Club, in Accrington.

Geoff was given £100 for a new walking coat and money for radio transmitting equipment.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Geoff Evans has delivered 17 babies during his career and treasures the 'thank-you' letters he has been sent over the years

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Villagers call for action on 'rat-run'

By EMMA CRUCES

Villagers are brain- storming ways to close off their community to queue-jumping motorists.

Belthorn residents are increasingly frustrated with drivers using the road through the village to avoid traffic lights.

The community says Belthorn Road has been turned into a 'rat-run', with drivers from the Grane Road using the stretch to get to the Guide junction of the M65 since traffic lights were put in a few months ago.

Suggestions to make mornings easier for Belthorn folk have ranged from making the road one-way, blocking access at one end, or creating a 20mph speed limit.

The area's county councillor Peter Britcliffe said the village became gridlocked during rush hour. He said: "There was already a slight problem with congestion at the school during peak times.

"Now it is a thousand times worse because people are trying to avoid the traffic lights. I have had many emails and calls from people in the village who want the road blocking off so it can't be used as a short-cut. The problem with that is some people not from Belthorn use Belthorn School, before heading to work, so we have to think what will work best."

SHORT-CUT: Traffic at Belthorn

Resident Kathryn Sharpe said tailbacks through the village can be up to half-a-mile long. She said: "Much of the traffic appears to be people trying to avoid the congestion on the Grane Road.

"They show little concern there are children walking to school and often drive through at speeds well above the limit, endangering children's lives. I feel urgent action needs to be taken before someone is seriously hurt."

Emails to Coun Britcliffe describe the problem as the 'wacky races'.

County councillor for highways, Tim Ashton, said: "I am happy to look at suggestions that residents make about rat-runs. Preventing injuries and deaths on the roads is one of my priorities. If we can help, we will do."

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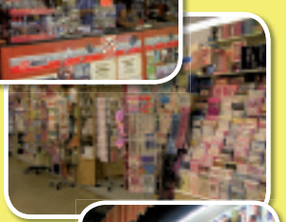

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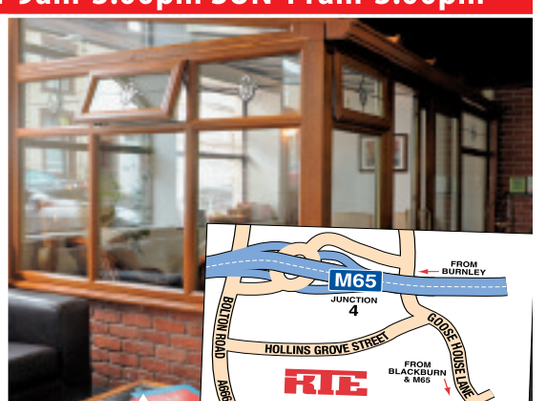

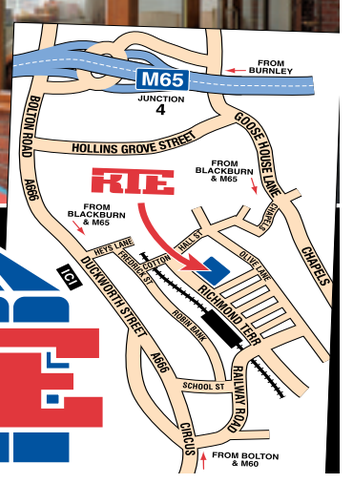

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ABTA The Travel Association

BOOST: Sharon Crymble with Usman Ali, left, and fellow school pupils

Appeal fund nears £100k

By NEIL DOCKING

The Raise the Roof appeal has reached £97,000 thanks to two generous donations.

The campaign by our sister newspaper, the Lancashire Telegraph, aims to raise £125,000 to build a new roof over East Lancashire Hospice's inpatient unit in Park Lee Road, Blackburn.

Garfield Weston Foundation, a grant-giving fund for UK registered charities, has awarded the appeal £10,000.

And pupils from Jamiatul-Ilm Wal-Huda School, Blackburn, have collected £500 for the charity drive.

Talha Ahmed, a member of the management team of the boys' school, in Moss Street, said: "We found out about the hospice appeal through the Telegraph. We wanted to raise awareness within our students and they decided to collect the money because they wanted to make a little gesture towards the cause.

"We are delighted to be supporting an initiative that will definitely help the local community. We had a tour of the hospice and it helped us to have a better understanding of the wonderful services it provides."

The Garfield Weston Foundation was established in 1958 by Willard Garfield Weston, a Canadian businessman who moved to the UK with his family. He was the creator of Associated British Foods and the Foundation, giving the charity the donation of his family-owned company shares.

Sharon Crymble, East Lancs Hospice fundraising manager, said: "When the boys came they had a look around the hospice and they said they would like to do more for us.

"We're very grateful for their efforts in pushing us nearer to the £100,000 mark and pleased to have been awarded this grant."

It is vital that money used for the roof does not come out of funds allocated to patient care. The hospice has to raise £2.8m per year for its running costs.

To donate to the Raise the Roof appeal, call Sharon Crymble on 01254 733410.

Citizen In brief

Family fun day at fire station

Accrington Fire Station is holding a family fun day for the community on Saturday, October 29, between 10am and 4pm. The event, at the Hyndburn Road base, will include rescue demonstrations, refreshments and entertainment in aid of the East Lancs Hospice and the Firefighters' Charity.

Talk on Pals

Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society is holding a special meeting to discuss the Accrington Pals. The meeting, in Accrington Library, with speaker Les Bond, is on Tuesday, November 1, at 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Wizard for kids

A Harry Potter-themed drama workshop for children runs at Darwen Library, from 2pm to 3.30pm, tomorrow (Thursday). Tickets cost 50p from the venue, in Knott Street. The event is for children over eight years.

Author signs in

Author Christopher Fifield will be talking about his book Letters and Diaries of Kathleen Ferrier and signing copies at Blackburn Library on Saturday, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm

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Ribbon cut on new platform

By JESSICA CREE

Blackburn Railway Station's new-look platform has been unveiled.

The £1.7million renovation of platform four was officially opened by Blackburn MP Jack Straw, and is set to make travelling from the station a more comfortable experience.

The improvements have taken five months and include new lighting, passenger information screens, a public address system, and CCTV cameras.

And a new lift will make the platform more accessible to disabled passengers and those with luggage.

But the piece de resistance is the heated waiting room, where passengers can shelter from the elements.

"It gives such amazing resources for the customers and we are hoping it will encourage more passengers," said station manager Jane Murray.

"It is so bright and just gives a wow factor."

Blackburn with Darwen Council is aiming to increase the number of trains passing through Blackburn so there will be a train to Manchester every half-hour.

Blackburn with Darwen Mayor Karimeh Foster said this might even encourage businesses to open here.

Funding for the developments came from Access For All For Life, the National Stations Improvement Programme, and Blackburn with Darwen Council.

"This is a great day for rail passengers in Blackburn and for the town and the area as a whole," said Mr Straw.

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CARING WHISPER Shy Accrington single mum, 43. 5'5'', green eyes/brown hair, GSOH, enjoys music, nice walks and cinema, searching for a decent guy, who is genuine and fun, for friendship & more. **Box 112523 t**

TENDERNESS Friendly Bolton female, 43, nurse, enjoys gym, cinema, swimming and more, seeks kind, caring man, for an understanding, lasting relationship. **Box 107651**

CARING NATURE Caring female, 43, works as a nurse, Bolton, likes eating out, holidays, keeping fit, seeks like minded male, for ltr. **Box 107954**

TREAT ME WELL Divorced, sexy Bolton female, 44, 5'2'', GSOH, intelligent, likes meals out, walking and music, searching for a male, cute, sensitive, caring and funny, for dates and a happy relationship. **Box 114239 t**

NICE AND CURVY Decent looking female, 46, nice & curvy, very passionate & loving, wltm genuine, honest, good looking male 39-46, for a long term relationship. Nelson. **Box 101569**

PLENTY OF LIFE TO GIVE Divorced, young at heart Bury female, 47, 5'6'', blonde, GSOH, enjoys pubs, clubs, gym and football, seeking a considerate male, sporty, funny and kind, for good times and maybe a relationship. **Box 114354 t**

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OUR MOMENT Slim, divorced Bolton female, 47, 5'11'', active lifestyle, enjoys riding, the beach and more, searching for similar sincere, easygoing man, who enjoys travel and an active life. **Box 103002 t**

REACH OUT YOUR HAND Tall, attractive Darwen woman, 47, slim/med build, GSOH, caring, enjoys films, countryside, nights out/in, would like to meet a tall man, 45-55, honest and sincere, for company and maybe more. **Box 114691 t**

ENJOY LIFE Slim, warm, sociable, passionate Bury woman, 47, 5'2'', dark hair, many interest, looking to share good times with a genuine man, 42-50. Bury. **Box 850124 t**

LOOKING FORWARD TO IT Petite, divorced lady, 49, likes cinema, meals out, cinema, socialising, looking for a gent, to share life together. **Box 108042 t**

LIFE'S ADVENTURE Slim Bolton lady, 49, 5'9'', searching for a solvent gent, for a serious relationship. **Box 112676 t**

MEANINGFUL THING Curvy lady, 49, 5'5'', dark hair, brown eyes, likes walks, cooking, family life, seeks tall, family guy, to settle down into a lasting relationship. Chorley. **Box 102799 t**

A LOT TO GIVE Genuine female, 49 years old, looking for a gentleman for a life-time relationship, likes cooking, travel, most things. Blackburn. **Box 854547 t**

QUALITY TIME TOGETHER Young at heart, divorced lady, 50 with a GSOH seeks a male 45-55 to share life and a laugh with. Enjoys the gym, salsa and tap dancing. Blackburn. **Box 111803 t**

THAT MAGIC MOMENT Caring, loving, trustworthy, faithful Blackburn lady, 50, with lots of tlc, GSOH, looking for a gent, for a lifetime relationship. **Box 109765**

REACH NEW HEIGHTS Shy, divorced female, 51, spiky black hair, green eye, petite with grown up children, looking for genuine company & more. Widnes. **Box 102948 t**

JUST A MESSAGE AWAY Confident, muslim woman, 51, 5'4'', dark hair, hazel eyes, lives in Bolton, looking for that special man, to share my life with. **Box 106705**

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WILL THIS DO? Fun, loving, bubbly, lady seeking a genuine, honest, loving man to share life with. Likes nights out and in, very loyal and decent. Blackburn. **Box 868259**

GAME OF LIFE Friendly, brown-haired woman, 53, 5'6'', nurse, mum, GSOH, enjoys cooking, travel and more, seeks an active, interesting man. Blackburn. **Box 100516 t**

LOOKING FOR MR NICE Widow, Blackburn lady, 54, brown hair, blue eyes, N/S, enjoys walking, countryside, pubs, wining, walking my dog, dancing, cinema, looking for a sociable male, for ltr. **Box 106138 t**

SOMETHING IN COMMON Friendly Bolton lady, 54, looking for a nice guy, who is friendly and outgoing, and loves sport, walks, eating out and theatre. **Box 113607 t**

A NEW CHAPTER Genuine, attractive lady from Blackburn, 55, brunette, enjoy socialising and would like to meet a caring, presentable man with gsoh, for days out and friendship initially. **Box 111316 t**

LOOKING FOR A REAL MAN Blackburn female, 55, 5'6'', brow hair, N/S, grown up child, enjoys days out, seaside, car boot sales, social drinks, looking for a loyal, honest guy. **Box 110009 t**

MAKE EACH OTHER SMILE Young at heart 55yr old lady, brunette, likes dancing, cinema, walking, meals in & out, wltm similar gent, for friendship leading to more. Bolton. **Box 102049 t**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Down to earth female, 56, gsoh, smoker, into most things, looking for an easygoing male, 50-60 for good times leading to more. Blackburn. **Box 104793 t**

LIFE'S FOR LIVING Active Manchester lady, 57, works full time, enjoys walks swimming and more, looking for a kind, considerate and understanding man, to go out with. **Box 458054**

SEEKING COMPANION Loving, affectionate Accrington female, 59, many interest, looking for a kind generous and caring male, to share life with. **Box 115741 t**

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SHOW YOUR SMILE Decent, easygoing Bury female, 60, 5'7'', enjoys reading, art, crosswords and conversation, searching for a similar gent, 6ft+, with good manners, to share a happy future with. **Box 113959**

FROM ONE TO ANOTHER Separated, loyal female, 62, 5'5'', dark blonde, brown eyes, care worker, enjoys meals out, theatre, travel, seeks intelligent gent, for LTR. Bolton. **Box 100561**

GREAT COMPANIONS Petite, christian lady, 62, blonde hair, likes countryside, meals out, pets, gardening, walking, seeks gentleman friend, for 45-75 for friendship & more. Burnley. **Box 102703**

THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE Outgoing, attractive lady, 62, blonde NS with blue eyes. GSOH, enjoys good conversation, dancing travel and cooking. Semi-retired with own business. WLTM a smart solvent male 52-65 for friendship possibly more. **Box 111809 t**

SETTLE DOWN WITH ME Divorced female, 62, gsoh, smoker, from Bolton, likes socialising, countryside, wltm sincere gent. **Box 108734 t**

ASK ME OUT! Honest, caring female, 63, 5'3'', slim, likes dancing, socialising and holidays abroad, seeks a man, 60-65, to enjoy life with. Burnley/Lancs. **Box 108090 t**

THE LOOK OF LOVE Very fit, attractive, young widow, 63, 5'8'', long brown hair, brown eyes, gsoh, likes dancing, dining out, football, socialising, seeks honest gent, 60-64 for ltr. Bolton **Box 105400**

IT COULD BE YOU Great personality, young outlook, 60s, slim redhead, looking for my soulmate. Darwen. **Box 857045 t**

MAYBE MORE THAN FRIENDS? Bubbly Chorley female, 66, 5'5'', blonde with blue eyes, good sense of humour, non-smoker, would like to meet a honest and genuine man, for socialising, days out, travel and maybe more. **Box 114954**

PERFECT PERSONALITY Easygoing, friendly Bolton female, 67, 5'5'', N/S, loves walking, countryside, animals, music, football, wining and dining, looking for a man for friendship, companionship and having a laugh. **Box 114665**

STILL SEARCHING FOR YOU female, 68, long hair, green eyes, slim build, loves animals, walking, pub lunches, looking for a nice gent 67-70. Accrington/Lancashire **Box 112143**

PLENTY OF LOVING Blackburn lady, 69, 5'5'', blonde hair & brown eyes, would love to meet a lovely man, 55-75, for tender loving care. Donald please leave a valid number. **Box 101525**

HEART TO HEART Blonde, blue-eyed Lancashire widow, 71, 5'7'', enjoys swimming, outings, theatre and cooking, searching for a kind, honest gent, to share interests with. **Box 113211 t**

COUNTRY LADY Genuine, kind Clitheroe woman, 73, dog lover, friendly, caring, enjoys countryside, dogs, socialising & eating out, seeking a similar gentleman, active, sincere & GSOH, for company and days out. **Box 115352**

TAKING THE FIRST STEP Young, blonde haired, blue eyed 74yr old Blackburn lady, petite, would like to meet an honest male to have a chat & a drink with. Likes going for country drives and weekend away. **Box 114823 t**

EXPLORE NEW HORIZONS WITH ME Supportive, thoughtful Nelson widow, 74, own bungalow, looking for a happy gent, for friendship and company. **Box 113980**

Men seeking women

THINGS IN COMMON? Shy at first type Blackburn male, 25, likes nights in and out, meals and generally having a good time, seeking a non-smoking female for friendship leading to a relationship. **Box 115438 t**

PROMISE YOU Single male, 25, 5'9'', blue eyes, short ginger hair, from Nelson, enjoys playing snooker, friends & family, seeks romantic female to enjoy good times with. **Box 111348 t**

CARE FOR A WALK? Easygoing, reliable Blackburn guy, 35, tall, blue eyes, GSOH, enjoys socialising, keeping fit and cinema, searching for a genuine woman, funny, caring and honest, for romantic dates and more. **Box 114640 t**

GO ON, TAKE A CHANCE! Honest, friendly St. Helens guy, 36, looking for a lady 40-55, for good times and laughter, friendship at first possibly leading to more. **Box 106232**

SEEKING GENUINE LADY Good looking guy, 37, 5'11'', enjoys walks and going to the gym, wltm female, 30-55 for weekends away, travelling, cosy times in & more. Accrington. **Box 102220 t**

LADY BE MINE Slim and sexy guy, dark hair/eyes, GSOH, laughs a plenty, 40, enjoys life and socialising, seeking a slim, shapely, mature female, 45+, with GSOH for romance and relationship. Manchester **Box 112448 t**

GET IN TOUCH Fun loving active guy, 39, enjoys eating out and socialising, would love to meet like minded woman for fun times. Bury. **Box 849418 t**

NEEDING SOMETHING SPECIAL Active, sporty, divorced Bolton male, 41, 5'9'', green/hazel eyes, likes martial arts, football, cinema, bowling, eating in/out, seeking a petite lady with similar interest, for company and more. **Box 114250 t**

PURE KINDNESS Caring, outgoing Nelson male, 41, likes nights in & out, countryside, looking for a genuine, honest caring female, who wishes to settle down into a long term relationship. **Box 114258 t**

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE GENUINE Fun loving, genuine Bolton male, 42, single dad, loves walking my dogs, swimming, cosy times in, computer games & family life, seeks sociable woman, for good times and more. **Box 114049 t**

MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER Separated Bolton male, 42, likes walks, swimming, cosy nights in, socialising, seeks genuine woman with a GSOH, to live my life with. **Box 114299 t**

BE YOURSELF Manchester male, 43, 6', grey hair, blue eyes, likes meals out, nights in and out, cosy nights in, walking my dog, driving and holidays, seeking a female companion to enjoy these good times with. **Box 115756 t**

SO GOOD TOGETHER Young 42, single, genuine honest & caring male, looking for that special someone to care for and share life together. Chorley. **Box 852878**

SEARCHING FOR A COMPANION Enjoy wildlife and keeping fit? 44yr old Darwen guy, GSOH, likes walking, cycling, swimming, cosy nights in, would like to meet a woman with similar interests, to share experiences with. **Box 114537 t**

SEARCHING FOR A SPECIAL LADY Active, delightful male, 46, own house, likes the outdoors, country pubs, keep fit, gardening, driving, holidays, seeks fun female, to enjoy good times together. Accrington. **Box 103201 t**

ADVENTURE AHEAD male, 46, 5'10'', green eyes, smoker, N/D, likes social clubs, cosy nights in, music, eating out, seeks fun lady 30-50 to share good times with. **Box 100084 t**

REACH OUT YOUR MIND Down to earth male, 46, likes going out, pubs, eating out, music, seeks outgoing female, 42-52 for fun, friendship & more. Blackburn. **Box 104053 t**

SHARE EACH OTHERS COMPANY Handsome, sporty male, 46 from Bolton, likes cooking, walking, cinema, wltm nice, attractive, caring female, for a lasting relationship. **Box 106757 t**

LOVE IS THE ANSWER Honest, loving Blackburn single dad, 47, 6', stocky, blue eyes, GSOH, looking for a genuine female to wine, dine and love. **Box 849502**

LIFE IS MADE FOR TWO Happy go lucky male, 47, dark hair, average build, looking for a fun lady, for fun, laughter and hopefully more. Nelson. **Box 102774 t**

FANCY A DATE? Caring, loving and romantic Bury male, 48. 5'10'', looking for a decent, loving, understanding and romantic lady, for a lasting relationship. **Box 113173 t**

ARE YOU MY SOUL MATE? Honest, down to earth singe dad, 47, 5ft2, slim, gsoh, likes nights in/out, easy going, WLTM slim, attractive, genuine female for friendship and more. Blackburn **Box 875820**

GOOD COMPANY REQUIRED Easygoing male, 49, own house, likes keep fit, country pubs, jogging, looking for a female, to share happy times with. Accrington/Lancashire **Box 111868**

RIGHT HERE WAITING Warm hearted male, 49, likes the gym, swimming, travel, seeks nice female, 30-50 to share good times and more together. **Box 104599 t**

LIFE & LOVE Active, happy bloke, 49, searching for a down-2-earth woman, to make a fresh start with. Accrington. **Box 100244 t**

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HAPPINESS AHEAD Romantic guy with a cheeky smile, 50, short hair, slim build, Chorley based, likes cooking, nights in, wltm female, to share good times together. **Box 108102 t**

IN YOUR COMPANY Adventurous male, 50, brown eyes, stocky build, loves outdoor pursuits, wltm attractive, curvy lady, for fun, friendship and more. Chorley. **Box 101586 t**

REACH OUT Friendly male, 50, 5'9'', enjoys socialising, dancing and having a laugh, seeks an equally loving and caring woman, to get to know better. Lancs. **Box 100026 t**

MAKING HIS MOVE Good-looking East Lancs male, 54, 5'10'', fair/blue, smoker, slim build, own home/car, smoker, enjoys meals, holidays and music, searching for a fun, feminine lady, 36-52, with GSOH, for romance. **Box 113314**

SAIL AWAY Easygoing Blackburn widower, 55, with a passion for sailing and climbing, own yacht, enjoys walks, gardening & diy, seeking a professional lady, with caring disposition and a love of cats. **Box 111138 t**

WAGON WHEEL Decent looking chap, 55, stocky build, very loving and honest, likes social drinks, driving, the seaside, looking for a decent woman. Burnley/Burnley **Box 111906 t**

THE THRILL OF IT ALL Self employed Burnley male, 56, enjoys country drives, weekends away, theatre, meals out, looking for a lady companion, to share these good times together. **Box 113757**

TRUE HAPPINESS AWAITS Trustworthy, honest Blackburn chap, 58, 6'3'', own car, sociable drinker, likes the quiet life, would like to meet a similar woman to share life together. **Box 115241**

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LIFES UPS AND DOWNS Professional, separated, honest male, 51, N/S, loves driving, animals, the great outdoors, seeks like minded female, 40-50. Darwen. **Box 102481 t**

MISSING SOMEONE SPECIAL Easygoing, N/S 52yr old male, 5'5'', likes music, cycling, countryside, cosy nights in, wltm nice female, for a possible LTR. Burnley. **Box 101460 t**

ALL THE BEST Open, friendly Darwen male, 52, 5'8'', brown hair, blue eyes, average build, varied interest, seeking a nice friendly female, 45-55 for company and maybe more. **Box 114305**

RETURN MY SPARKLE Active Burnley man, 53, with a happy outlook & good personality, enjoys the outdoors, seeking a smart, erudite slim pretty lady for walks, talks & hopefully good old fashioned love and romance. **Box 115464**

TAKE YOU BY THE HAND Happy go lucky Blackburn chap, 53, 5'10'', salt and pepper hair, stocky build, no ties, would like to meet a lady with a GSOH, who share similar interests to myself. **Box 114523 t**

THATS JUST ME Down to earth Blackburn male, 54, 5'8'', short hair, blue eyes, no ties, would like to meet a woman to share walks, nights in and out, countryside and most things in general. **Box 115004 t**

EYES THAT SHINE Confident male, 54, 6'1'', own house/car, enjoys wining, cosy nights in, seeks open minded woman to enjoy life with. Manchester **Box 100085**

LUST FOR LIFE Affable, good looking, 58, 5'10'', many interest, reading, holidays, looking for a warm, feminine lady, for love and tlc. Accrington **Box 100439**

FIND OUT MORE Affectionate, active male, 59, medium build, N/S, likes driving, meals out, social drinks, motor bikes, seeks sincere female, 50-59 for ltr. Wigan. **Box 104192**

MY SIMPLE WISH Widowed male, 59, 5'8'', coach driver, many interest, looking for a nice lady, 45-65 to enjoy life with. Burnley. **Box 104247 t**

QUALITY MOMENTS TOGETHER Widowed male, 59, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, GSOH with no ties, looking for a loving female, to enjoy life with. Blackburn. **Box 102137 t**

MAKE THE EFFORT Divorced male, 59, medium build, from Bury, likes country pubs, the seaside, nights in & out, seeks female 50-75 for friendship possible relationship. **Box 109831 t**

PURE HEARTS Charming fella, 60, 5'5'', med build, own home/car, enjoys country, coast and dining out, searching for a nice lady companion. Lancs. **Box 100114 t**

MAN OVERBOARD Warm, decent, genuine Blackburn male, 60, tall, slim, outgoing, smoker, enjoys outdoors, days out, boot sales, cosy nights, wltm similar slim, decent 50s female. If that's you... drop me a line. **Box 113202 t**

READY FOR A NEW START Young at heart, caring, loving Blackburn male, 61, N/S, looking for honest, sincere woman to share life's ups and downs. **Box 112279 t**

SEEKING NEW ADVENTURE Accrington male, 61, enjoys the simple things in life and likes a social drink, a non-smoker who would like to meet a sociable lovely woman, who wishes to enjoy good times together. **Box 115292**

ARE YOU THE ONE Sincere, caring male, 64, 5'10'', slim N/S, Bolton, likes sports, dancing, eating in and out, seeks slim N/S woman to enjoy life with. **Box 109512 t**

CAN YOU HELP? Genuine, caring, active male, young 63, 6', GSOH, looking for that special lady in his life. Blackburn. **Box 849438 t**

NOT JUST WORDS Sincere, active Accrington gent, 67, own home and car, likes day trips, holidays, seaside and the countryside, seeks a loving lady for good times, company and companionship. **Box 100453**

THE STARS SHINE FOR YOU Tactile, caring chap, 68, 5'9'', N/S, N/D, own car, divorcee, likes meals out, cosy times in, garden centres, country pubs, seeks N/S lady. Chorley. **Box 102046**

GOOD COMPANY Active Warrington male, 70, own house/car, likes day out and weekend away, would like to meet a lady under 75, for companionship and more. **Box 104198**

ENRICH OUR LIVES Friendly, decent Nelson gent, 77, med build, 5'7'', active, enjoys various interests, meals out and walks by the coast, searching for a petite lady, kind and caring, for companionship & more. **Box 115423**

Women seeking women

REAL FRIENDSHIP Straight, average girl, 35, 5'8'', loves live rock bands, writing, reading, animals, vegetarian, pubs, cinema, looking for new friends, 21-55 around Chorley. Claire please leave contact number. **Box 104453 t**

TIME FOR EACH OTHER Shy at first type of woman from Chorley, 48, like the simple things in life, looking for a genuine, friendly and understanding female for a lasting relationship. **Box 115218**

GIRLS DAY OUT Lancashire lass, straight, own business, own car, GSOH, 50, enjoys days out, socialising, would like to meet other straight ladies for laughs, company and trips out. **Box 112435 t**

Men seeking men

BE YOURSELF Slim, Bury male, 56, 5'10'', presentable, sincere, CD, would like to meet a similar-minded, 55-60 yr old male. Could it be you? **Box 110927 t**

FLYING WITHOUT WINGS Romantic, outgoing Blackburn male, 60, 5'6'', slim, blue eyes/fair hair, enjoys nights out, cooking, travel and socialising, looking for a nice guy to share life with. **Box 467829 t**

DO YOU MIND? Victor Meldrew clone, 61, with a sight problem, seeks male minder for trips out, maybe more. Must have a sensitive, lively mind & GSOH. Kendal. **Box 560607**

DRESSED TO THRILL Mature male, 60s, cross-dresser, various interests, WLTM guy in the Bolton area. **Box 278966**

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MILESTONE: Margaret Wilson, of Darwen, celebrates her 100th birthday with her 'adopted niece' Carolyn Hargreaves

A Guinness to toast century

Margaret Wilson celebrated turning 100 on Saturday by having two glasses of Guinness and an early night.

The former weaver has lived at St James' home for the elderly, Darwen, since 2007. Sharon Witton, who has worked at the home for 22 years, said: "She had a couple of glasses of Guinness in the afternoon and was in bed for 4.30pm."

Mrs Wilson, who lived in the Chapels area of Darwen with her husband Dai, became a full-time resident after suffering a series of falls at home.

Ghostly tours plan

By CATHERINE PYE

One of Lancashire's most haunted houses is set to open its doors to ghost-hunters for the first time.

Judith Seery, of Turton Tower, has met with a team of expert psychics and mediums about running a series of overnight tours in November and December.

She said: "It's so scary at night. We have had a lot of ghostly incidents in here that have been seen by a range of visitors and staff. Once a woman on a tour was pushed in the face, and people say they have seen a lady on the front lawn.

"These sightings have been going on for about 40 years. Security guards who patrol at night say they have been over to speak to a woman against a fence, but as they've got closer, she disappears.

SPOOKY: Ghostly sightings have been reported at Turton Tower

"My 13-year-old son says he's also seen a ghostly figure flying across the sitting room and he was really shocked by it."

TV executives from the Most Haunted series were denied access last year over concerns that filming equipment would damage the grade II listed building. Now Blackburn with Darwen Council, which owns the property, will decide on permission once experts have been to establish safety procedures and insurance.

Mrs Seery said: "The tours, led by torchlight, will run from midnight to 3am, or 4am. They will be done in very small groups, so it will be a better atmosphere."

Parts of the tower date from 1420 when it was a simple pele tower, before being extended into a residence in the Tudor and early Stuart period.

More recently, it has been used as council offices, and since 1974 as a museum and historic house.

The ghost-hunting event is open to over-18s only. No date for the tours have yet been set. For more details call Mrs Seery on 07551 794283.

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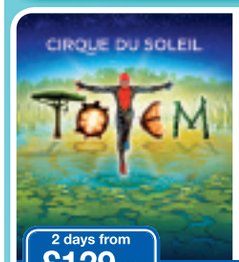

Cirque Du Soleil - Totem at the Royal Albert Hall

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CitizenTime

Xtremely happy with his album

Former painter and decorator, Southampton-born X Factor winner Matt Cardle, 28, has spent the last year working on his debut album Letters, which is out now.

YOU PERFORMED ON THE FIRST LIVE SHOW ON THIS YEAR'S X FACTOR. WAS THAT NERVE-WRACKING?

It was. I was on the Sunday show, and because everyone had been singing so well on the show the night before, there was extra pressure. It's a tough thing to do, and I was singing a song Gary Barlow wrote, in front of Gary Barlow. He said he enjoyed it, so that was good.

YOUR ALBUM IS OUT NOW. WAS IT ENJOYABLE RECORDING IT?

I loved every minute. You get the most amazing feeling when you're recording something you've written. It's one thing being happy with something yourself, but then when the label and manager and everyone in your team says they're happy too, it's an even greater feeling.

IT'S ALMOST A YEAR SINCE YOU WON THE SHOW. HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING SOLIDLY IN THAT TIME?

Yes, I haven't had a break at all. I've just been in the studio, co-writing the album. It went better than I could have hoped, and the pressure gave me an extra kick to work hard.

YOU WROTE SONGS WITH JAMES WALSH FROM STARSAILOR AND EG WHITE, WHO WORKED ON AMY WINEHOUSE'S FIRST ALBUM HOW WAS THAT?

I wrote with a few people, yeah, and I really clicked with Eg and James.

60 SECONDS WITH ... MATT CARDLE

What's on

theatre

IN CONVERSATION WITH AN ACID BATH MURDERER — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Saturday, October 29 to Sunday, October 30.
A PASSION FOR EVIL — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Saturday, October 29 to Sunday, October 30.

gigs

THE KABEEDIES — with The Ran-Tan Waltz and New Rumours, The Live Lounge, Blackburn, Thursday, October 27.
BOWLING FOR SOUP — Manchester Academy, Thursday, October 27.
SCOTT MATTHEWS — Bury Met, Thursday, October 27.
FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND — Manchester Academy, Friday, October 28.
BENJAMIN FRANCIS LEFTWICH — 53 Degrees, Preston, Friday, October 28.
KAREYCE FOTSO — Preston Guild Hall, Friday, October 28.
THE CAT EMPIRE — Manchester Academy, Saturday, October 29.
NEW YORK TOURISTS — with Yellow Chantys, Arcadians, The Live Lounge, Blackburn, Saturday, October 29.
FOCUS — with the Crazy World of Arthur Brown, the Grand, Clitheroe, Saturday, October 29.
ALICE COOPER — Manchester Apollo, Sunday, October 30.
MOPISHE'S BAGEL — Bury Met, Sunday, October 30.

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TICKETS are available at £59 each (STANDARD CLASS – adult), £44 (child under 16 - STANDARD CLASS) & £89 (FIRST CLASS – all ages). These are only available from "Compass Tours". Call 0151 722 1147 (10am-6pm weekdays) for enquiries, seat reservations and debit/credit card bookings, visit www.compasstoursbyrail.co.uk send us an SAE or email info@compasstoursbyrail.co.uk for further details. **PLEASE NOTE** Mondays are usually our busiest so please consider contacting us on other days too. Postal bookings are to "Compass Tours", 46 Hallville Road, Liverpool, L18 0HR. **Booking conditions available upon request, by sending SAE or check our website.**

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Laughter legends

They've been together as one of the country's most popular double acts for 48 years but, as Tommy Cannon tells JOHN ANSON, he and partner Bobby Ball have many years of laughter left in them

Leading comedians are now heading out on arena tours, which allow them to play in front of thousands of fans at a time.

But for one of the most enduring double acts, making the masses laugh is nothing new.

For 25 years ago, Cannon and Ball were breaking box office records all over the country with their own brand of family-friendly fun. And they continue to pull in the crowds today.

Tommy Cannon, the straight man of the partnership, said: "The arenas are certainly bigger than any theatres we have played, but when it comes to numbers we played 23 straight weeks at the Blackpool Opera House and sold out two shows a night with 6,400 people a night.

"To be honest, I don't think we'd like to play arenas as the audience can be so far away, they're really watching you on TV. We like that audience inter-action, to be able to see everyone laughing around the venue."

The duo will be making a trip to Burnley Mechanics on Friday – and they can't wait.

"It's like playing on our home ground," said Tommy. "The northern circuit is where we spent 18 years before we appeared on TV and became stars overnight. We always get a great reception from people in the area."

Cannon and Ball have been together longer than most married couples. "We've been together 48 years now," said Tommy, "but honestly we still really enjoy every show. I think we'll be doing it till we drop because we love it.

"We still get those butterflies before a show. If you don't get them, then I think it's a sign you should give up."

■ Cannon and Ball play Burnley Mechanics on Friday (box office 01282 664411).

DUO: Tommy Cannon, left, and Bobby Ball

Cinema round-up

CONTAGION (12A)
A stylish thriller in which a mystery virus threatens to become a world epidemic as scientists battle to fight it.

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN (15)
Documents the aftermath of a school massacre from the perspective of the teen perpetrator's guilt-stricken mother.

JOHNNY ENGLISH REBORN (PG)
Retired secret agent Johnny English (Rowan Atkinson) is wooed back to thwart an assassination attempt.

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blackburnanddarwencomedyfestival.co.uk

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The closing date for applications will be Friday 11th November 2011

Newsquest (North West) Ltd

Newsquest (North West) Limited is part of one of the largest newspaper publishing companies in the country.
We currently have the following vacancies:

Picture Desk Assistant

The successful candidate will be working on our busy Picture Desk, helping to source, process and archive images on three titles, the Lancashire Telegraph, the Citizen series and the Westmorland Gazette, together with a number of special supplements.

Enthusiastic and committed, you will have an excellent knowledge of Photoshop. Experience of Extensis archiving systems would be an advantage, although training will be given. You will also be required to support our online platforms.

Good inter-personal skills are also essential, as well as an exemplary telephone manner.

Deputy Features Editor (Maternity Cover)

The award-winning Lancashire Telegraph is looking for an experienced feature writer to provide maternity cover for our deputy features editor.

The successful applicant will be heavily involved in the running of a busy features department including originating ideas, generating copy and co-ordinating weekly entertainment and leisure supplements. The features team also produces a weekly women's page and is responsible for many commercial products and platforms.

We are looking for someone with lots of ideas, energy and enthusiasm to fit into our hard-working features team. If you are an experienced, qualified senior journalist with experience of working on a daily title we'd love to hear from you.

Experience in helping in the management of a features team would be an advantage. Applications for a job share may be considered.

Please write with a CV for an application form to Tracy Cunliffe, Editor's Secretary, Lancashire Telegraph, Newspaper House, High Street, Blackburn, Lancs, BB1 1HT, email tracy.cunliffe@lancashire.newsquest.co.uk or phone 01254 298299.

Closing date: Friday 4th November 2011

Newsquest (North West) Limited is committed to encouraging diversity throughout our workforce and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

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- **08 (08) CHEVROLET TACUMA 1600 SX;** metallic blue, only 6,000 miles £4,990
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- **05 (05) FIAT DIABLO 1.9 DIESEL;** 1 owner , FSH, 55,000 miles, silver £3,990
- **05 (54) FORD FOCUS C-MAX 1.8 GHIA;** black, 46,000 miles, expected this weekend £4,490
- **04 (54) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2;** 5 door, light blue metallic, well worth seeing £2,890
- **04 (54) NISSAN ALMERA; 1.5 SE;** 5 door, silver, 1 owner, 39,000 miles, FSH, parking sensor £3,990
- **04 (54) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6;** 7 seater, black, 45,000 miles, expected this weekend
- **04 (54) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 MANUAL/AUTOMATIC;** 5 door, metallic silver, 55,000 miles, alloys £3,490
- **04 (54) VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6 ENERGY;** metallic blue, tinted glass, well worth seeing, 54,000 miles, expected this weekend
- **04 (04) RENAULT LAGUNA 1.6 DYNAMIQUE;** 5 door, bright blue metallic, 36,000 miles, service history £3,990
- **04 (04) VW POLO 1.9 SDi DIESEL;** 5 door, metallic blue, 55,000 miles, well worth seeing, only group 2 insurance expected this weekend
- **03 (53) FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX;** black, 5 door, 43,000 miles £3,990
- **03 (53) HONDA JAZZ 1.4 SE;** 5 door, 49,000 miles, metallic blue, well worth seeing £3,990
- **03 (03) PEUGEOT 307 RAPIER;** private reg sold with car (P6 AHG), 3 door, metallic gold £2,890
- **02 (52) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRi;** 5 door, metallic blue, 59,000 miles, alloys, rear spoiler £2,490
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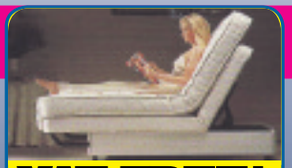

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